



National Institute of
Children's Environments, Inc.

1 Kitchen Safety



Keep containers of hot food and liquids in the center of the table out of children's reach.



Turn pot and pan handles inward towards the back of the stove so your child cannot grab them and pull down hot food.



Never allow your baby to play on the floor by the stove when you are cooking.



Use a stove guard so your child cannot reach or touch the burners.



Teach your child that when the oven light is on, the oven is hot. Leave the light on until the oven has cooled.



Never heat baby bottles in the microwave. The liquid heats unevenly and could burn your child, even if the part tested was not hot.



Put out small stovetop fires by covering flames with a pan or lid cover or by throwing baking soda on the fire. Never pour water on a grease fire.



Keep chairs and highchairs away from the stove and work counters.



Toddlers may pull off tablecloths. Use caution.



Store cookies, crackers, and other goodies away from the stove so your child will not climb to reach them.



Never leave a boiling pot or sizzling skillet unattended.



Safety Latch!

These are two examples of safety latches.



Appliance Latch

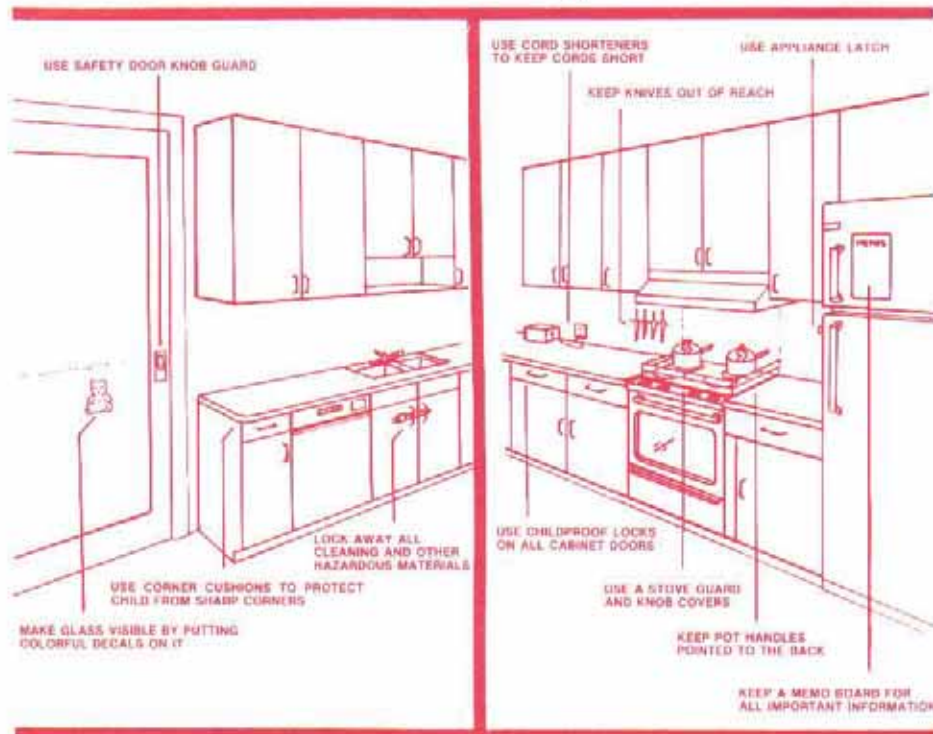


Velcro Appliance Latch

INSTALL

appliance latches or safety straps on microwaves, ovens, trash compactors, and dishwashers to prevent children from opening them.

- Use doorknob covers over existing doorknobs to prevent young children from opening them.
- Use a slide lock on side-by-side pull handles such as those on cabinets to make it difficult for children to open.
- Sliding glass doors should be made of safety glass. A board or pole can be placed in the track to prevent opening.
- "Charley Bars" (automatic sliding door closers) with hold-open and speed adjusters are easy to install.
- Remove swinging doors or hold them open with a hook-and-eye. Use a security gate for off-limit areas.
- Walk-in closet doors need to be openable from the inside.
- Rubber cap door stoppers are a choking hazard for children. Replace with screw-in stoppers that attach to a wall.



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